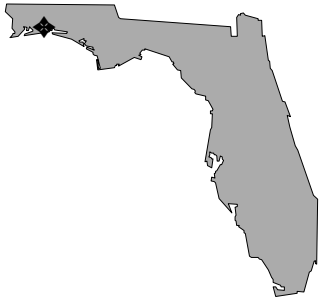
Pensacola Naval Air Station NPL

Size: 5,874 acres
Mission: Serve as a flight training center
HRS Score: 42.40; placed on NPL in December 1989
IAG Status: Federal Facility Agreement signed in October 1990
Contaminants: Ammonia, asbestos, benzene, cyanide, heavy metals, paints, PCBs, pesticides, phenols, plating wastes, and chlorinated and nonchlorinated solvents
Media Affected: Groundwater, surface water, sediment, and soil
Funding to Date: $48.0 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): $70.1 million (FY2030)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for All Sites: FY2013



Pensacola, Florida

Restoration Background

This installation, which now serves as a flight training center, was formerly a naval air rework facility and aviation depot. Operations that have caused contamination at the station include machine shops, a foundry, coating and paint shops, paint stripping and plating shops, various maintenance and support facilities, landfills, and storage facilities. Environmental investigations conducted at the installation since FY83 have identified 38 CERCLA sites, 1 solid waste management unit (SWMU), and 15 underground storage tank (UST) sites.

Site types include landfills, disposal sites, polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) transformer and spill areas, industrial wastewater treatment plant areas, and evaporation ponds. The primary areas of concern are two landfills. Corrective measures have been taken at two UST sites. Cleanup activities, including installation of a groundwater pump-and-treat system, have been conducted at the SWMU. In FY94, the installation removed a waste tank. It also removed industrial sludge containing heavy metals from sludge-drying beds and stained soil from various sites. At another site, a fence was installed to restrict access to an area containing drums.

The installation formed a technical review committee in FY90 and converted it to a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) in FY94. The RAB has nine members, five of whom represent the community, and meets monthly. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration was included on the partnering team to assist in Ecological Risk Assessment issues. The installation held an open exposition and discussion concerning each agency's role and limitations. The RAB participated in television appearances and newspaper interviews to encourage community involvement.

In FY95, the installation began Interim Remedial Actions (IRAs) at four sites and completed the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and the Proposed Plan (PP) for an additional site. A Record of Decision (ROD) was signed for no further action (NFA) at Site 39. RI reports were submitted for 10 sites; RI fieldwork was completed for two of these sites. Five petroleum-contaminated sites were closed.

In FY96, a new CERCLA site was added to the program. The installation completed IRAs at four sites. The RI/FS was completed for four sites but was delayed, along with PPs for another four sites, until resolution of issues concerning use of institutional controls (ICs). The installation submitted an RI report for seven sites, completed an RI for Site 1, completed RI fieldwork for three sites, and initiated RIs for nine other sites. Remedial Design (RD) activities began at Sites 32, 33, and 35. In FY97, RI/FSs for Sites 4, 16, 28, and 36; an RI for nine sites; and RD for Sites 32, 33, and 35 were completed. An RD and a Remedial Action (RA) began at five sites. Monitoring for UST 17 continued through FY97. A hazardous waste permit was reissued for SWMU 1 allowed USGS to begin natural attenuation evaluation of the shallow aquifer's capacity to degrade halogenated compounds with provisions for a demonstration of source removal technology. The natural attenuation evaluation showed that favorable conditions exist for degrading contaminants at SWMU 1.

FY98 Restoration Progress

RIs at Sites 15, 19, 21, and 23 were completed, as were the RI/FSs for Sites 7 and 18. The Site 7 RI/FS requires an addendum to document a completed IRA. The Site 2 FS and PP were also completed. An FS for Sites 9, 29, and 34 was not completed because all parties agreed that Operable Unit (OU) 6 would be recommended for NFA. The PP and the ROD were completed but will need to be reissued because the no action alternative is unacceptable. The Site 2 ROD and RD were delayed because of discussion regarding the long-term monitoring alternative. The FS, RA, and PP were completed, and the ROD signed, for Site 1. The RA for Site 32 was initiated. The ROD for Site 38 was delayed because of additional delineation requirements for soil contamination. The RODs for Sites 17 and 42 were signed by the Commanding Officer of the installation, but editorial revisions to the final RODs were requested. The IRAs for Sites 1, 9, 10, 17, 18, and 25 were completed. The Remedial Action Plan was transferred to the UST program. The USGS continued the natural attenuation evaluation, and Fenton's reagent hydrogen peroxide injection technology was implemented for source removal of contamination at SWMU 1.

Plan of Action

- In FY99, complete RODs for Sites 2, 9, 15, and 29 and finalize RODs for Sites 17 and 42
- Complete RD for Site 1 and 2 and field investigation for Site 43 in FY99
- In FY99, complete source area removals (SARs) for USTs 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 26 and begin SARs for USTs 14 and 24
- Implement RA at UST 15, 20, and 21 in FY99 and at UST 14, 18, and 24 in FY00
- In FY00, begin RA for Site 1 and RD for Sites 15 and 38 and complete RODs for Sites 8, 11, 12, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 38, 40, and 41

FY99 Funding by Phase and Relative Risk